

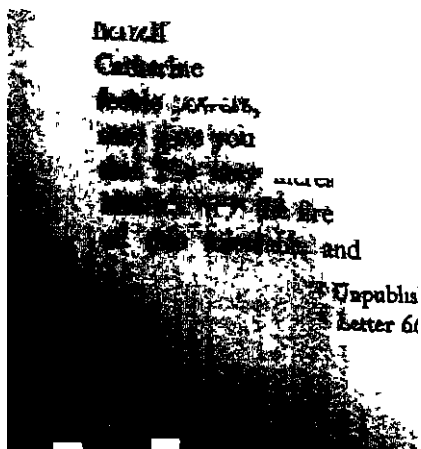
SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

for life. He has given His life *for* you, and do you give your life for Him, blood for blood. I invite you, in the name of Christ crucified, to give your blood for His, when the time comes which the servants of God are expecting, for going to win back what has been taken from us : namely, the holy place of the sepulchre of Christ, as well as the souls of the infidels, who are our brothers, bought back by the blood of Christ even as we ; to redeem the place from their hands, and their souls from the hands of the demons and from their infidelity. I invite you not to be negligent nor tardy, when the Holy Father raises the standard of the most holy Cross, and orders the sweet and holy expedition. I beseech you, by the love of Christ crucified, to await with gladness and desire the invitation to these sweet and glorious nuptials, where impurity will be left behind, and the soul, free from sin and penalty, will be fed at the table of the Lamb. You would indeed be foolish to keep away from such great delight. It seems to me that any one who could not go upright should go there crawling, to show his love for God by giving Him life for love of life. Make amends for your failings and for your sins with the instrument of your body, even as with the instrument of your body you have offended." ¹

As far as words went, the response to Catherine's appeals was prompt. Mariano d' Oristano, who ruled the island of Sardinia under the title of Judge of Arborea, promised to join the Crusade in person, and to supply two galleys, a thousand horsemen, three thousand foot-soldiers, and six hundred crossbowmen, for ten yeftrfc. The Genoese seemed

enthusiastic.² Giovanna professed

«j t _ J-
more than
ready. "My
venerable
mother," wrote
to the Queen, "I
will pray, to the
utmost of my the
supreme and
eternal goodness
of God that He



perfect light for this and all your good

works, and desire upon desire in
you ; so that, en-of love, you may
come from the sovereignty transient
life to that perpetual city of
Appendix, Letter I.